



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

GEORGIA HEALTH LITERACY MONTH

- WHEREAS: In Georgia, state leaders, academics, members of the professional medical community, and many employers have identified improving health and wellness as a top priority for our state; and
- WHEREAS: Health literacy is the capacity to find, comprehend, and use information about health to make the best possible health decisions and improve overall well-being; and
- WHEREAS: Inadequate health literacy may lead to improper utilization of health services and poor health outcomes including excess disease burden, increased mortality, and low satisfaction with health care; and
- WHEREAS: Health literacy is a stronger predictor of patient health outcomes than income, employment, education, race or ethnicity. Greater health literacy among all citizens may narrow health care disparities and reduce the burdens of many chronic and acute diseases and conditions for individuals, families, and health care providers; and
- WHEREAS: The economic burden of medical care and hospitalizations associated with less than adequate health literacy imposes significant hardships on our state, businesses, communities, and Georgia families due to work and school days lost and direct health care expenses; and
- WHEREAS: Organizations including the Georgia Alliance for Health Literacy are dedicated to promoting essential health literacy skills among Georgia's residents, health care providers, and health care systems; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 2018 as GEORGIA HEALTH LITERACY MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 6th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF